QUEEN

GREATEST HITS

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QUEEN ARE : JOHN DEACON, BRIAN MAY, ROGER TAYLOR AND FREDDIE MERCURY

Management : Jim Beach

This 2011 version of Britains biggest ever selling album has been meticulously re-created for this debut release on Island Records, using the finest modern analogue and digital technology, from the original first-generation master mixes.

Mastered by Bob Ludwig, Gateway Mastering Studios, Portland, ME
Audio Supervised by Justin Shirley-Smith and Kris Fredriksson. Special thanks: Joshua J Macrae, Paul Alexander at Cedar Audio

Sleeve design : Richard Gray. Sleeve notes : Jim Jenkins
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BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen. The song was first released in October 1975. Taken from their first No. 1 album, *A Night At The Opera*. Freddie's 5 minute 55 second magnum opus gave the band a single that stayed at No. 1 for 9 weeks. After the untimely death of Freddie in 1991 the song was re-released and again topped the charts again for another 5 weeks, making it the only song in history to be Christmas No. 1 twice, and a chart topper in four different years - 1975,1976, 1991 and 1992. The Mike Myers hit comedy *Wayne's World* also featured the song and consequently revived the band's career in the USA in the early Nineties; the single was re-released in America in February 1992 reaching No. 2 in the Billboard chart. In 1999 *Bohemian Rhapsody* was voted the best song of the Millennium and in 2009, the Muppet's Cover Version became one of the most downloaded videos in internet history, with over 20 million hits worldwide (and counting) and swept the boards at the 2010 Webby Awards.

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST

Written by John Deacon, produced by Queen and Mack. Released in the UK August 1980, from *The Game*. It was the first time that Queen had strayed from their rock roots towards a more dance-oriented sound. The song was the biggest selling USA Single of 1980. Shipping over seven million records worldwide, Queen were the biggest band in the world with *Another One Bites the Dust* and *The Game* at No. 1 in most countries across the globe simultaneously. In the UK the song reached No. 7. Re-released in 1998 it peaked at No.5 thanks to a collaboration with would be Haiti President, Wyclef Jean.

KILLER QUEEN

Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen. Released in the UK October 1974, from *Sheer Heart Attack*. It became the band's first major breakthrough in the singles charts throughout the world. The single was released as a double A side in the UK with *A Flick Of The Wrist*, and reached No. 2 in the charts.

FAT BOTTOMED GIRLS

Written by Brian May, produced by Queen and Roy Thomas Baker. Released in the UK October 1978 as a double A-side with *Bicycle Race*, from *Jazz*. The cover for the single featured a naked woman from the famous nude bicycle race that was staged to promote the single in the UK - but it caused a public outcry and was altered to show the same woman, wearing painted-on panties. The poster that came free with the album, and that featured all the girls in the race, was mainly made available by mail order so as not to upset retailers!

BICYCLE RACE

Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen and Roy Thomas Baker. Released in the UK in October 1978 as a double A-side to *Fat Bottomed Girls*, from the *Jazz* album. The song was written by Freddie whilst in France, having just watched the Tour de France pass by his hotel. When it was played live, local cycle shops sold out of bicycle bells before each gig as fans snapped them up to ring at the appropriate moment during the song.

YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND

Written by John Deacon, produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen. Released in the UK June 1976, from *A Night At The Opera*. John Deacon's first single release, and although *Bohemian Rhapsody* was a hard act to follow, this gentle love song became a worldwide hit, reaching No. 7 in the UK proving that Queen were not just a heavy rock band. The song also features in the closing credits to the hugely successful horror comedy, *Shaun of the Dead.*

DON'T STOP ME NOW

Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen and Roy Thomas Baker. Released in the UK January 1979. Second single from the *Jazz* album and a top ten hit in most European markets, No. 9 in the UK. In 2005 it was voted 'the best driving song' by *Top Gear* viewers and remains one of the most popular Queen songs of all.

CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE

Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen and Mack. Released in the UK October 1979 from *The Game*. The result of a completely new recording environment in Munich, Germany. This single was Queen's first US No.1 and became a huge hit in many other countries worldwide, reaching No. 2 in the UK. Written by Freddie whilst languishing in a bubble bath at the Munich Bayerischerhof Hotel. It was also the song which inspired John Lennon out of his exile to record his comeback album, *Double Fantasy* in 1980.

SOMEBODY TO LOVE
Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen. Released in the UK November 1976, from *A Day At The Races*. One of Queen's finest songs, full of emotion as well as complex multi-layered vocal arrangements. The song was a massive hit, reaching No. 2 in the UK charts in 1976 and No. 1 in 1993, this time performed by George Michael, Queen and the London Community Gospel Choir live at the Freddie Mercury Tribute Concert. In an interview for BBC Radio in 1989, Freddie said he would have loved to have heard Aretha Franklin sing the song. Sadly, he never got to hear Queen and George Michael's stunning rendition which stayed at No.1 for three weeks with all proceeds donated to the Mercury Phoenix Trust, fighting AIDS worldwide.

NOW I'M HERE
Written by Brian May, produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen. Released in the UK January 1975, from *Sheer Heart Attack*. Reached No. 11 in the UK chart. Brian wrote the song whilst hospitalized with Hepatitis in 1974 and was told at the time there was a chance that he would never fully recover. Luckily he did, and the lyrics are based on his experiences with Queen on tour supporting Mott The Hoople in the USA.

GOOD OLD FASHIONED LOVER BOY
Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen. Released in the UK May 1977 from *A Day At The Races*. It was just one of four tracks on the band's first extended play single - the other tracks were *Death On Two Legs (dedicated to...)*, *Tenement Funster* and *White Queen (as it began)*. Reached No. 17 in the UK chart.

PLAY THE GAME
Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen and Mack. Released in the UK May 1980. The video featured Freddie with his first moustache which caused outrage amongst fans who threw razors on stage at subsequent concerts. The song reached No. 14 in the UK chart and was the opening track to their biggest album of all time, *The Game*.

FLASH
Written by Brian May, produced by Brian May and Mack. Released in the UK November 1980 from the soundtrack album *Flash Gordon*. This, Queen's first outing into the world of film also made history as the first rock score to a non 'musical' feature film. Director Dino De Laurentis was initially unsure, but became a fan, as the movie achieved long-lasting cult success; rock sound tracks have now become almost the norm. This UK top ten hit single was written whilst watching the actual film footage, and incorporates dialogue from the film into its composition.

SEVEN SEAS OF RHYE
Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Roy Thomas Baker and Queen. Released in the UK February 1974, from *Queen II*. A 'taster' for the track was featured on the bands debut album, but the full version was only heard on *Queen II*. The single gave them their first British chart entry and their first appearance on Top Of The Pops. The song reached No. 10 in the UK Charts.

WE WILL ROCK YOU
Written by Brian May, produced by Queen assisted by Mike Stone. Released in the UK October 1977 as double A-side with *We Are The Champions*, from the album News Of The World, where it reached No. 2 in the UK charts, and soon after the coupling made No. 1 in the U.S.A. In France *We Will Rock You* was the A-side and held the No. 1 slot for 10 weeks; at which point it was deposed only by *We Are The Champions* by order of the French chart authority! This is now Queen's most sought after track for use as an anthem by sports teams and advertisers worldwide, and in 2002 gave the title to Queen's Rock Musical 'We Will Rock You'. Nearly 10 years later, having been enjoyed by over 5 million theatre-goers, 'We Will Rock You' is still playing to packed houses in London's West End and around the World.

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS
Written by Freddie Mercury, produced by Queen assisted by Mike Stone. Released in the UK October 1977, from *News Of The World*. The song has been adopted as an anthem by many famous sporting teams worldwide. Coupled with *We Will Rock You* it gave Queen their first American No. 1. It reached No. 2 in the UK. After its release, the song became the emotional climax of every Queen show.

Queen, 1974